

Remarks/Arguments

35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1-30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Zimmerman (U.S. Patent No. 2003/0093789), in view of Imazeki et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,535,164) ("Imazeki").

It is respectfully asserted that neither Zimmerman nor Imazeki, alone or in combination, disclose a:

"memory further operative to receive updated information and replace said information associated with the emergency alert function with said updated information; wherein said updated information is received via a network,"

as described in currently amended claim 1.

A problem addressed by the subject application is the need for updated information related to an emergency alert function of a television signal receiver. To solve this problem, the subject application discloses a system for, and method of, tuning a frequency including emergency alert signals indicating an emergency event, storing information associated with the emergency alert signals, receiving updated information associated with the emergency alert signals over a network, and replacing the initial information with the updated information.

In some embodiments, a television signal receiver receives updated information associated with the emergency alert function, such as, but not limited to, geographical area information and/or transmission frequency information, and stores the updated information in memory. Such updated information enables the emergency alert function of the television signal receiver to be performed with the most up-to-date information available. In other embodiments, the processor automatically enables a connection between the television signal receiver and a website designated by the user during the setup process whenever the emergency alert function is activated. The user may then interact with the designated

website through the browser and thereby cause updated information associated with the emergency alert function to be downloaded to television signal receiver and stored in memory. For example, the website may include maps that enable the user to select one or more geographical areas of interest and cause updated information, such as new FIPS location codes and/or new transmission frequencies, corresponding to those areas to be downloaded to television signal receiver.

Zimmerman and Imazeki fail to teach a memory operative to receive updated information and replace information associated with the emergency alert function with the updated information received via a network. As admitted in the Office Action, Zimmerman “fails to explicitly disclose a memory operative to store information associated with the emergency alert function, said memory further operative to receive updated information and replace said information associated with the emergency alert function with said updated information.” Thus, Zimmerman also fails to disclose a “memory further operative to receive updated information and replace said information associated with the emergency alert function with said updated information; wherein said updated information is received via a network,” as described in currently amended claim 1.

It is submitted that Imazeki teaches an emergency broadcast receiver which enables a “current area code” to be updated automatically. The receiver of Imazeki uses a GPS receiver to obtain current position information. Then, a converter converts the current position information into an area code by use of a conversion table to write the area code into a code memory. (Imazeki Abstract).

Imazeki updates a current location using a GPS receiver. GPS involves one-way radio transmissions from GPS satellites to a GPS receiver. The transmission to the receiver does not involve a network. Therefore, Imazeki, like Zimmerman, fails to disclose “a memory further operative to receive updated information and replace said information associated with said emergency alert signals with said updated information; wherein said updated information is received via a network” as described in currently amended claim 1.

In view of the above remarks and amendments to the claims, it is respectfully submitted that there is no 35 USC 112 enabling disclosure provided by Zimmerman or Imazeki, alone or in combination, that makes the present invention as claimed in currently amended claim 1 unpatentable. It is also respectfully submitted that currently amended independent claims 11 and 21 are allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 1. Since dependent claims 2-10, 12-20, and 22-30 are dependent from allowable independent claims 1, 11, and 21, it is submitted that they too are allowable for at least the same reasons that their respective independent claims are allowable. Thus, it is further respectfully submitted that this rejection has been satisfied and should be withdrawn.

Having fully addressed the Examiner's rejections it is believed that, in view of the preceding amendments and remarks, this application stands in condition for allowance. Accordingly then, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully solicited. If, however, the Examiner is of the opinion that such action cannot be taken, the Examiner is invited to contact the applicant's representative at (609) 734-6804, so that a mutually convenient date and time for a telephonic interview may be scheduled.

No fee is believed due. However, if a fee is due, please charge the additional fee to Deposit Account 07-0832.

Respectfully submitted,

/brian j cromarty/

By: Brian J Cromarty
Reg. No. L0027
Phone (609) 734-6804

Patent Operations
Thomson Licensing Inc.
P.O. Box 5312
Princeton, New Jersey 08543-5312
October 1, 2008